

**Amendment to the Claims**

---

1. (Currently amended) A nucleic acid comprising a modified gene encoding a non-mammalian anti-microbial anti-staphylococcal protein, the gene including a sequence that codes for an amino acid sequence that is identical to the anti-microbial protein produced by the natural host except that the coding sequence includes one or more alterations that disrupt one or more mammalian post-translational processing events so that the non-mammalian protein is produced and secreted by mammalian cells in its active form.

2. (Original) The gene of claim 1 wherein the modified gene is operatively linked to at least one mammalian regulatory sequence.

3. (Previously presented) The gene of claim 1 wherein the alteration eliminates one or more glycosylation sites.

4 -26. (Canceled)